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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA

VITAL STATISTICS
SANITARY WORKS
Etc.
For the Year 1963

BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA

VITAL STATISTICS

SANITARY WORKS

Etc.

For the Year 1963

BY

E. WILLIAMS

(M.R C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Oxon)

Medical Officer of Health

and

A. J. DENNIS

(M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.)

Chief Public Health Inspector.

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Telephone:
Barnstaple
3675

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

To the Chairman and Members of the
BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT.

Mr Chairman, Mesdames Burgess, Gillespie,
Meeson and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics of the Barnstaple Rural District for the year 1963.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and interest in the work of the department and also to thank the Chief Public Health Inspector and Staff for their co-operation during the year.

Your obedient Servant,

E. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: J. CHUGG

VICE-CHAIRMAN: J.H.GEORGE

COUNCILLORS:

T. ANSTEY, C.A.
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W. H. YEO
C. G. YEO

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONSISTS OF:

PART TIME OFFICER:

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: Dr. E. Williams, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.,D.P.H.Oxon.

WHOLE TIME OFFICERS:

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR,ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR:

A.J.Dennis,M.A.P.H.I.,C.R.S.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS: J.W.Bolton,M.A.P.H.I.,M.R.S.H.
F.A.Lethbridge,M.R.S.H.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: E. Masters

CLERKS: Mrs. J. Kelly
Mr. P. Lethbridge

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The chief occupations of the district are:-

(i) Agriculture

(ii) Catering for visitors

The locality may be regarded as purely non-industrial and employment ia on the whole steady.

1963

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health for the Barnstaple Rural District

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	129,346
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	26,020
Inhabited Houses	8,263
Number of Council Owned Houses	656
Density of Persons per House	3.2
Rateable Value	£344,559
Value of a Penny Rate (Estimate)	£1468. 8s.3d.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	434
Live Births, rate per 1000 population ...	16.67
Live Births, rate per 1000 (corrected) ...	20.34
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	2.9
Stillbirths	6
Stillbirths rate per 1000 live and still-births	13.6
Total live and still-births	440
Infant Deaths under 1 year	10
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births	23.04
Infant Deaths per 1000 legitimate births ...	24.33
Infant Deaths per 1000 illegitimate births	Nil

Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 Total Live Births)	16.12
Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 Total Live Births) ...	13.82
Peri-Natal mortality rate(Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 Total Live & Still-births	27.27
Maternal mortality (including abortion) ...	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 Live and Still-Births	2.27
Deaths	329
Death rate per 1000 population	12.64
Death rate per 1000 population corrected ...	10.49

POPULATION TRENDS SINCE 1950

Year		Population	Live Births	Deaths
1950		22,520	334	298
1951	Census	23,150	324	314
1952		23,030	342	322
1953		23,360	318	257
1954		23,410	346	296
1955		23,642	334	316
1956		24.070	343	302
1957		24,010	369	300
1958		24,370	362	276
1959		24,370	356	294
1960		25,050	365	272
1961	Census	25,290	338	299
1962		25,580	353	336
1963		26,020	434	329

BIRTHS

During the year there were 434 live births in the Rural area - an increase of 81 over the previous year. There were 219 males and 215 females.

Live Births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	209	202	411
Illegitimate	10	13	23
Total	219	215	434

STILLBIRTHS

Stillbirths:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0

The illegitimate birth rate of 2.9% compares favourably with the rest of the country.

DEATHS

During the year there were 329 deaths as compared with 336 in the previous year. They included 162 males and 167 females.

The following table gives the causes of deaths:-

	Males	Females
Syphilitic disease	1	-
Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	2
Malignant neoplasm, brest	-	4
Malignant neoplasm,uterus	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	16
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1
Diabetes	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	21	36
Coronary disease, angina	32	35
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1
Other heart disease	23	26
Other circulatory disease	9	8
Pneumonia	4	5
Bronchitis	6	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1
Congenital malformations	3	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	11

Motor Vehicle accidents	7	1
All other accidents	1	5
Suicide	3	-

NEO-NATAL DEATHS

This represents the number of deaths occurring in infants under the age of 4 weeks:-

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

During the year 10 infants (7 male and 3 female) died under the age of one year, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 23.04 . There were no illegitimate infant deaths under the age of one year.

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	7	3	10

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

under 4 weeks	:	7
4 weeks to 1 year	:	3
1 year to 4 years	:	1
5 years to 14 years	:	4
15 years to 24 years	:	5
25 years to 34 years	:	3
35 years to 44 years	:	3
45 years to 54 years	:	17
55 years to 64 years	:	35
65 years to 74 years	:	98
75 years and over	:	153

MATERNAL MORTALITY

One death was attributable to childbirth during the year.

CANCER DEATHS

There were 62 deaths from cancer during the year as compared with 71 for the previous year.

	Males	Females	Total
Cancer of stomach	4	4	8
Cancer of lung and bronchus	11	2	13
Cancer of breast	-	4	4
Cancer of uterus	-	2	2
Others	19	16	35
			62

DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER

Year		M	F
1950	...	1	1
1951	...	1	-
1952	...	5	1
1953	...	5	2
1954	...	5	1
1955	...	5	-
1956	...	7	-
1957	...	8	2
1958	...	9	2
1959	...	7	2
1960	...	6	2
1961	...	9	2
1962	...	10	-
1963	...	11	2

The total number of cancer deaths since 1950 is shown in the following table:-

Year	Total no. of Deaths	- Cancer Deaths - M	F	Total
1950	298	14	24	38
1951	314	14	26	40
1952	322	26	29	55
1953	257	18	27	45
1954	296	20	30	50
1955	316	21	26	47
1956	302	25	30	55
1957	300	31	26	57
1958	276	21	22	43
1959	294	24	28	52
1960	272	20	21	41

1961	299	24	27	51
1962	336	34	37	71
1963	329	34	28	62

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A total of 363 infectious disease notifications were received during the year. The majority of these (330) were measles cases which occurred during the late spring and early summer months.

There were three cases of tuberculosis, one of which was a young woman who was diagnosed after admission to the County Welfare Home in the Rural District from Barnstaple Borough.

No cases of food poisening were reported during the year and there were no cases of Infantile Paralysis or Diphtheria.

The following tables give particulars of the infectious diseases notified during the year:-

Measles	330
Sonne Dysentery	7
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	5
Whooping Cough	14
Scarlet Fever	3
Acute Encephalitis	1

Three cases of lung tuberculosis and one non-pulmonary notified in accordance with the regulations were as follows:-

Age Period	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-
5 -14 years	-	-	-	-
15-24 years	1	-	-	-
25-44 years	-	1	-	-
45-64 years	1	-	-	1
65 & over	-	-	-	-

LUNG TUBERCULOSIS - DISTRIBUTION OF CASES

Braunton	...	1
Combe Martin	...	1
Countisbury	...	1

The following table shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register on 1st January and 31st December 1963:-

Year 1963	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL
1st January	53	34	87	9	10	19
31st December	55	33	88	9	12	21

INCIDENCE OF PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS SINCE 1948

Year	No. of Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Case Rate per 1,000 Population	No. of Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Non-Pulmonary
1948	15	0.68	1	0.04	7
1949	22	0.95	3	0.13	4
1950	10	0.44	4	0.17	6
1951	23	0.99	7	0.30	7
1952	21	0.91	6	0.26	11
1953	24	1.03	3	0.12	4
1954	11	0.47	-	-	3
1955	4	0.17	-	-	1
1956	7	0.29	-	-	2
1957	5	0.20	1	0.04	1
1958	5	0.20	1	0.04	2
1959	4	0.16	1	0.04	1
1960	6	0.23	-	-	-
1961	5	0.20	1	0.04	2
1962	5	0.23	-	-	2
1963	2	0.075	-	-	1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

TUBERCULOSIS

Hawley Hospital, was closed down at the end of March and all tubercular cases are now treated at Hawkmoor Hospital.

MATERNITY CASES

At the North Devon Infirmary, there is a ward of 14 beds, with a fully-qualified staff available for cases of doubt and difficulty.

A General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is situated at "Highfield", Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

At Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe, there are 10 beds for Maternity and Ante-natal patients.

ISOLATION IF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There is an Infectious Diseases Isolation Hospital at Bideford, the Kingsley Hospital, which serves Barnstaple as well as other Local Authorities in North Devon.

SMALLPOX

The Smallpox Hospital to which any cases of Smallpox will be sent is Upton Pine Hospital, near Exeter. Special ambulance transport can be obtained by contacting the Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter. (Telephone 67158)

GENERAL

The North Devon Infirmary, situated at Barnstaple, serves the area, and provides modern Medical and Surgical treatment for the residents of the district.

Two wards with a total of 33 beds at the Alexandra Hospital are set aside as an annexe to the wards of the North Devon Infirmary and post-operative and recovery patients are now transferred there as soon as possible.

There are 100 beds for the chronic sick at the Alexandra Hospital.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The main Laboratory is situated at Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of drinking water and milk are also carried out.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75, Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon area. The Blood Bank is also situated at this Laboratory.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

V.D. Clinic

This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.

Sessions:	Females	Males
Monday	4.0 p.m.	5.15 p.m.
Thursday	4.30 p.m.	5.45 p.m.

Chest Clinic

The Chest Clinic is held at the North Devon Infirmary Glossop Annexe.

Sessions:		
Tuesdays	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Clinic and X-ray Examinations
Wednesdays	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Under Section 27 of the National Health Act, 1945, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves Barnstaple Borough and the district around, and the Headquarters are in Commercial Road, Barnstaple. The staff consists of three paid members (full-time), 20 men volunteers and 14 volunteer nurses. The Hospital car service, also under the Devon County Council, is available upon application to the Hospital by the doctor concerned, and the Ambulance

Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when the ambulance is not necessary.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOMES

There are nine District Nurses in the area, all of whom act as Midwives.

IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION

Protective immunization and vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Smallpox and Poliomyelitis, are undertaken by the General Practitioners and at the Infant Welfare and School Clinics. There are four Infant Welfare Clinics organised by the Devon County Health Authority within the district. These are held as follows:-

Fremington-Parish Hall:	2nd & 4th Wednesday afternoons.
Braunton-Parish Hall:	Thursday afternoons
Combe Martin-Baptist Chapel Rooms:	2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoons
Woolacombe-Methodist Hall:	2nd & 4th Wednesdays

CARE OF THE AGED

Where possible, elderly people who are living alone are given every assistance to enable them to remain as long as possible in their own homes. The more needy cases are visited by the Health Visitors, and in instances of ill-health, by the District Nurses. They are also assisted in running their own homes through the Home Help Scheme. This is operated locally by the W.V.S. through Mrs M. Hughes, for the Devon County Council and extends into all the North Devon rural area wherever transport is available, but the Rural area is now run by a paid organiser - Mrs Shirley.

THE HOME HELP SCHEME

In Barnstaple Borough there are now 77 Home Helps, full-time and part-time.

During the past year, 599 cases have been dealt with. These include old people, disabled, blind, illnesses of all kinds, and maternity cases. There are now 16 blind people being looked after, and 46 old people. A number of these

would certainly have to go to Hospital or to an Old People's Welfare Home were it not for the Home Help Service.
25 maternity cases have been looked after by Home Helps in their own homes.

The W.V.S. also visit any old person living alone who wishes this, and also do their shopping and help in every possible way. The S.O.S. Window Cards scheme is also going well. About 60 people have these cards, and it gives them a sense of security knowing they can get help if they are in distress.

MEALS ON WHEELS

This service is still provided by the W.V.S. at a cost of 1/-. Approximately 39 meals are delivered to people in their own homes each Wednesday, and these are very much appreciated.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

This service operates at the Alexandra Road Clinic every Wednesday and Friday. The W.V.S. arrange the rotas and assist the Chiropodists generally. The charge is 2/6d., but free for Old Age Pensioners reveiving National Assistance, also to expectant mothers.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951. SEC. 47

Compulsory removal to hospital had to be undertaken with regard to an elderly lady who was living alone. A Home Help had been in attendance but was unable to provide the twenty-four hour supervision and care which was required in this particular case, and the Council saw fit for steps to be taken for her removal.

Fortunately no other elderly persons had to be dealt with under this Act during the year.

HOUSING

During the year Closing or Demolition Orders were passed by the Council in respect of four dwellings. Eight families were re-housed from unfit houses during the year.

The Council approved of 46 applications for Standard Grant improvement to dwellings, 26 of which were in respect of owner/occupiers and 20 in the case of dwellings let to tenants.

The Council also approved of 25 applications for Discretionary Grants, 14 of which were for owner/occupiers and 11 tenanted.

Eight Council dwellings were erected and completed during the year, four at Archipark, Swimbridge and four at Woodland View, Heanton. The total number of applicants for Council dwellings at 31st December, 1963 was 236 as compared with 341 in December, 1962.

Houses built privately during 1963 totalled 214.

1961 CENSUS COUNTY REPORT

The 1961 Census County Report which contains more statistical detail has now been received.

The Census population for the Rural District for 1961 was 25,073 as compared with 23,642 in 1951. The population in the parishes is given, some of which have increased in size, particularly Fremington, Braunton, Bishops Tawton and Landkey.

The Report also gives the following interesting information: out of 7,828 dwellings occupied at the time of Census, 441 (5.63%) are without an internal cold water tap; 1714 (21.9%) are without hot water supply; 1781 (22.75%) are without fixed baths; and 1039 (13.27%) are without a flush W.C.

BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT

CENSUS 1961 - PARISH STATISTICS

Parish	Population 1951	Population 1961 Total	M	F	No. of dwellings	Owner/ Occupier
Arlington	157	121	69	52	37	-
Ashford	166	192	89	103	59	42
Atherington	391	360	181	179	122	70
Berrynarbor	650	636	288	338	236	161
Bishops Tawton	1023	1056	494	562	341	172

Parish	Population 1951	Population 1961 Total	M	F	No. of dwellings	Owner/ Occupier
Bittadon	36	45	24	21	12	7
Bratton Fleming	480	488	226	262	165	95
Braunton	3819	4303	1979	2324	1510	853
Brendon	244	213	112	101	65	37
Challacombe	147	153	83	70	40	22
Combe Martin	2310	2228	1004	1224	798	435
Countisbury	118	80	42	38	35	11
East Down	238	213	114	99	72	37
Fremington	2734	4409	2238	2171	1366	824
Georgeham	1001	1018	447	571	352	187
Goodleigh	229	219	100	119	74	48
Heanton Punchardon	1358	931	585	346	180	27
High Bray	144	150	71	79	46	16
Horwood	69	79	33	46	22	14
Instow	788	782	373	409	250	98
Kentisbury	292	270	143	127	80	36
Landkey	700	824	411	413	237	134
Loxhore	148	141	69	72	42	13
Martinhoe	191	149	68	81	42	22
Marwood	599	584	283	301	184	113
Mortehoe	1328	1289	575	714	342	220
Newton Tracey	107	92	48	44	30	12
Parracombe	368	309	163	146	105	66
Shirwell	352	359	181	178	100	54
Stoke Rivers	143	128	71	57	34	23
Swimbridge	1024	910	441	469	307	166
Tawstock	1125	1285	611	674	424	290
Trentishoe	48	47	23	24	14	11
West Down	494	514	258	256	152	69
Westleigh	479	380	177	203	121	36
West Pilton	125	126	63	63	42	22

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WATER SUPPLIES

The majority of villages and hamlets in the 36 Parishes of the Rural District are on mains water supplied by the North Devon Water Board.

The water intake is from two sources, one from the River Yeo at a point some five miles from the town of Barnstaple. This water is filtered through sand filter beds and chlorinated at the Pilton Treatment Works. The other source of supply is from the Water Board's Reservoir at Wistlandpound. This is treated by filtration and chlorination at the Board's Works at Bratton Fleming.

The following table shows the existing water supplies in the various parishes and proposed extensions:-

Parish	Population 1961 Census	
Arlington	121	Small hamlet-scattered dwellings-private main supply,owned by National Trust. An extension of the mains has been approved to Arlington Court.
Ashford	192	Compact village-main supply-North Devon Water Board.
Atherington	360	Compact village-main supply-North Devon Water Board.
Berrynarbor	626	Compact village-main supply-North Devon Water Board.
Bishops Tawton	1056	Compact village-main supply-North Devon Water Board.
Bittadon	45	Isolated dwellings-on well water supply. Scheme being prepared for mains supply.
Bratton Fleming	488	Village-main water-North Devon Water Board
Braunton	4303	Large village-main supply-North Devon Water Board. Proposed extension to Lobb.
Brendon	213	Small hamlet & scattered dwellings-private supplies-springs. Scheme approved for mains supply to be started in 1964.

Challacombe	153	Small hamlet-springs & wells-private supplies
Combe Martin	2228	Large village-mains water-North Devon Water Board.
Countisbury	80	Hamlet & scattered dwellings-private supplies- springs.
East Down	213	Hamlet-main supply-North Devon Water Board
Fremington	4409	Large village-main supply-North Devon Water Board.
Georgeham	1018	Large village-main supply-North Devon Water Board. Extension of mains to Putsborough completed.
Goodleigh	219	Village-main supply-North Devon Water Board
Heanton Punchardon	931	Village - main supply - North Devon Water Board.
High Bray	150	Village-main supply-North Devon Water Board
Horwood	79	Hamlet-main supply-North Devon Water Board
Instow	782	Village-main supply-North Devon Water Board
Kentisbury	270	Village-supply-North Devon Water Board
Landkey	824	Village-main supply-North Devon Water Board
Loxhore	141	Upper Loxhore on mains water-start has been made by the laying of mains National Trust Property. Lower Loxhore- spring water.
Martinhoe	149	Hamlet & scattered dwellings-private wells and springs.
Marwood	584	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Mortehoe	1289	Village-main supply-North Devon Water Board
Newton Tracey	92	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Parracombe	309	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Pilton West	126	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Shirwell	359	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Stoke Rivers	128	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Swimbridge	910	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Tawstock	1285	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Trentishoe	47	Hamlet - springs.
West Down	514	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.
Westleigh	380	Main supply- North Devon Water Board.

During 1963, the Board provided mains water for a further 336 domestic dwellings and 27 farms.

The following table indicates the number of water samples taken throughout the year:-

No. pf samples taken	Satisfactory
30	19

Included in the above total were nine samples taken for Improvement Grant Purposes, all of which were satisfactory.

There are 24 schools administered by the Devon County Council and 3 private schools within the rural area. All are on mains water supply, with the exception of Countisbury Junior School.

I am grateful to Mr A.S.Bateman, the North Devon Water Board Engineer for the information supplied.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Towards the latter part of 1962, a Ministry of Health Circular was received which stated that the Minister was ready to approve under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act of 1948, the making of arrangements with water undertakings for the addition of fluoride to water supplies which were deficient in fluoride.

The addition of fluoride to drinking water for the prevention of dental decay has had the support of the Standing Dental Advisory Committee, the Central Health Service Council, the General Dental Council and the British Medical Association.

The natural fluoride content of the Barnstaple Rural District water supply was 0.02 parts per million and the recommended level of fluoride in water for the prevention of dental decay in children was 1 part per million.

The subject was fully discussed by the Council but at this stage they are not prepared to accept the addition of fluoride to their water supply.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ENGINEER and BUILDING SURVEYOR

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Barnstaple Rural District Council,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my 18th Annual Report for the year 1963.

There are 36 Parishes in the Barnstaple Rural District, 129,346 acres in extent. The basic population is 26,020, but the influx of summer visitors causes a wide variation and there is no information available as to the summer population.

The number of properties is:-

No. of houses & flats (including 1113 agricultural dwelling houses & 656 Council Houses)	8263
No. of commercial premises,e.g.,shops with dwelling accommodation,banks,lock-ups,hotels,boarding houses,garages, etc.	939
No. of Public Houses including Beer Houses	49
No. of Entertainment & recreational premises, e.g.,Cinemas,golf clubs,dance halls,swimming pools etc.	72
No. of Educational & Cultural premises, e.g., Schools, colleges, libraries etc.	35

No. of miscellaneous properties, e.g.,Crown properties,clinics,nursing homes etc.,	292
No. of industrial premises, e.g., factories, mills,etc.	27
No. of Public Utility premises	34
Freight Transport	1
	9712

I am pleased to report that at long last the Braunton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme is nearing completion and in 1964, the discharge of crude sewage into Vellator Pill will cease. The Council first decided to prepare a scheme to achieve this end in 1937.

The future is not so bright, however, concerning the Landkey, Swimbridge and Bishops Tawton Scheme. Several meetings have been held during the year and discussions have taken place with the Barnstaple Borough Council, the River Board, and details have been sent to the Minister but the provision of a sewerage scheme still seems to be a long way off. Further delay means additional burdens to the residents of the three parishes who, having enjoyed a mains water supply for many years, are still forced to use primitive means of sanitation or to provide septic tanks which are not in all cases satisfactory. Words cannot express the frustration felt by many who are trying to secure a scheme for these three parishes.

The Regulations requiring 100% meat inspection and stamping of all inspected carcases which came into force on October 1st, placed an undue burden on the Public Health Staff. The appointed day for these Regulations had been known to local authorities for some time and had, in fact, been delayed purposely to enable authorities to recruit the additional staff which was known to be required. Despite this, the majority of Councils found themselves in a similar position - being without sufficient staff to cope with the additional work and generally being unable to recruit this staff. Efforts have been made to fill the vacancies in the increased

establishment and it is hoped that additional Inspectors will be appointed early in the new year. In the meantime, local veterinary surgeons are assisting with the inspections.

Estate developement showed no signs of diminishing during the year and the number of houses completed was approximately the same as in 1962. Specific details are included in the Building Surveyor's report.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Developement Act, 1960, also claimed a considerable amount of time during 1963 and in this connection the department was assisted by Mr. Barton, who was employed during the holiday season to check and supervise the caravan and camping sites throughout the area.
The co-operation of the site owners was almost 100% and there are very few outstanding omissions in conforming to the Site Licence requirements.

LIST OF LICENSED CARAVAN SITES

Site	Total	Residential	Touring
Pine Cones, Woolacombe	50		
Berrynarbor Trailer Park	50		
Seabirds, Croyde	6		
East Cottage, Bickington	23		
Fortescue, Mortehoe	15		
Dune View, Braunton	56		
Glenavon, Combe Martin	100		
Twitchen, Mortehoe	275		68(O.S.449)
Woolacombe Bay Caravan Park	245		62
Cleavewood House, Woolacombe	60		
Burrows Mead, Croyde	150		
Lundy Meadow, Croyde	60(operated by the Caravan Club)		60
Over Woolacombe Barton	70		
North Morte Farm, Mortehoe	73		
Lorna Doone, Parracombe	20		20
Ruda, Croyde	280	1	
Mount View, Landkey	24	24	
Chivenor Cross	25		25
Score Farm, Braunton	22	22	

Site	Total	Residential	Touring
Down End, Croyde	24	6	
Lagoon View, Yelland	195	5	
Watermouth Caves, Berrynarbor	61		
Barn Lawn, Georgeham	2	1	
The Grange, Kentisbury	21		
Sandaway, Berrynarbor	90		
Midlands, Ashford	63		
Putsborough	20		20

The following sites hold certificates from the Caravan Club of Great Britain and are permitted to accommodate not more than 5 caravans at any one time:-

Bay View Garage, Landkey Road.
West End Farm, Georgeham.
Blatchford House, Shirwell.
Brookham Farm, Fremington.
Bestridge Farm, Swimbridge.
East Down Rectory, East Down.
Beara Manor, Bratton Fleming.
Ensis, Harracott.
Heddon Mills, Braunton.
Wheel Farm, Berrynarbor.
Tuckers Farm, Georgeham.
Hore Down Farm, Bittadon.
Roadway Farm, Woolacombe.

From surveys carried out by both the Divisional Planning Department and my own, the number of caravans, tents and chalets used for holiday accommodation in the rural district is as follows:-

Caravans	Tents	Chalets
1974	1079	313

The main concentrations were as follows:-

Locality	Static Holiday	Tourist	Tents	Chalets
Woolacombe	584(5%)	-	245(4%)	-
Croyde Bay	424(4%)	116(7%)	190(3%)	229(5%)
Berrynarbor	-	-	189(3%)	-

It is to be regretted that I still have to report on the lack of suitable sites for the disposal of refuse. It is hoped to make arrangements for a site to serve the area south of the River Taw, but despite every effort by Councillors and staff, it has been impossible to find a site to serve the area north of the River Taw which includes Braunton and the seaside resorts of Croyde, Georgeham, Mortehoe and Woolacombe. It is to be hoped that the Council will not have to resort to compulsory powers in the acquisition of a refuse disposal site.

The demands on the refuse collection service are increasing annually and over 200 tons of refuse are collected weekly. Country areas have a fortnightly collection service, the larger villages weekly and the coastal areas a bi-weekly collection during the summer season.

SUMMARY OF MEAT INSPECTIONS

Animals Inspected		Condemned Carcases	Condemned Portions	
			T.B.	Other causes
Sheep	29,986	149		602 Livers 3 Hind-quarters 5 Lungs
Pigs	3,928	9	28 Heads	13 Livers 5 Lungs 4 Hearts 1 Hind leg 1 Fore leg
Beasts	904	1	2 Fore-quarters	1 Hind leg 1 Liver
Cows	70	4		1 Head 1 Lung 10 Livers 1 part liver 1 Spleen 2 Hind-quarters
Calves	405	13		
Goats	3			

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

4 heifers - heart affected.
1 heifer - head affected.
4 bullocks - head affected.

"RODENT CONTROL" REPORT

Regular monthly inspections and Poison treatment where necessary has kept the Council refuse tips and sewage disposal sites clear of rat and mice infestations.

The 19 sewer systems were tested and treated where necessary.

To comply with Ministry regulations the number of inspections of private properties totalled 950 as follows:-

Farm premises	225
Private & Business	660
Complaints and requests for advice	65

42 premises were discovered to be infested above average but after advice had been given all were re-visited and found satisfactory.
Infestation throughout the district is down to a minimum.

All previous infested and suspected areas are being visited regularly.

The co-operation of the public as a whole has been good, and the services of the Council in an advisory capacity have been appreciated and considered essential.

TOTAL NOTICES (Served as under)

Public Health Act	...	...	Nil
Housing Acts	...	...	4

SWIMMING POOLS

The only Swimming Pool in the district is situated on the seashore and is privately owned. The pool is covered by every tide.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Byelaws are in operation for the control of Offensive Trades. There is one in the district - the Tannery at Swimbridge.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS

There is no need for regulations in this area in respect of underground sleeping rooms.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Food Hygiene Regulations. 141 inspections of food premises were made during 1963. Attention was drawn to certain requirements in some premises and any necessary improvements were made without having to resort to formal action.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

During the visits to food shops and inspection of items of food for sale, certain items of tinned food have been condemned due to damage or rust or leakage.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

11 tanks were put under ullage tests during the year and all proved to be satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 (SECTIONS 110 & 111) OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec.110 (i)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prose-cutions for failure to sup-ply lists	No. of instances of work in un-whole-some premises	Notice served	Prose-cutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel (Making,etc.)	54	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	54	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1957- PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspection made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4,&6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	9	5	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	42	29	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	15	11	Nil	Nil
Total	66	45	Nil	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	to H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S_1)					
Overcrowding (S2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective					
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).					

BUILDING SURVEYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Barnstaple Rural District Council,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the following Report on the activities of the Building Surveyor's Department during the year 1963:-

P L A N S

Details of Plans submitted	1963	1962	1961
No. approved under Byelaws	97	104	86
No. disapproved under Byelaws	3	12	3
No. approved under Town Planning ...	456	550	568
No. refused under Town Planning ...	174	-	-
No. decision given (Enquiry & deferments)	25	163	121
No. withdrawn after formal submission ...	19	15	10

	1963	1962	1961
No. of Houses completed during the year			
(i) By Private Enterprise	214	217	194
(ii) By Local Authority	8	21	2
No. of houses under construction	141	-	-

I wish to record my thanks to the Members of the Council, the Staff and members of my department for their help and support during the past year,

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. DENNIS

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